

DHEC'S OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE REDUCTION & RECYCLING

The S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 created the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) **Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling** (Office). The Office provides educational programs, technical assistance and grant funding to local governments, public and private schools, colleges and

universities and the public regarding solid waste issues. The Office, in accordance with the Act, has no regulatory, compliance or enforcement role. Please call the Office at **1-800-768-7348** or visit our Web site at www.scdhec.gov/recycle for more information on any of the programs and services offered in this brochure.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

Education is a priority of the Office. Four of the centerpiece programs are listed below. Many of the Office's resources are available at www.scdhec.net/recycle.

'Action for a cleaner tomorrow: A South Carolina Environmental Curriculum Supplement'

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("Action") is a national award-winning kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12), activity-based, interdisciplinary curriculum supplement. Developed by teachers and the Office in conjunction with the S.C. Department of Education, "Action" can serve as a starting place for introducing basic environmental education in the classroom. "Action" offers solid waste management, air, energy and water lessons as well as a lesson resources section and glossary. Many lessons deal with South Carolina-specific issues. All lessons have been correlated to the state's curriculum standards for science, language arts, math and social studies. A three-hour training workshop is offered to teachers throughout the state at no cost. Teachers receive an "Action" CD-ROM that includes not only the lessons but video field trips, Web links and the Recycle Guys public service announcements. Updated and supplemental information is provided on the Office's Web site.

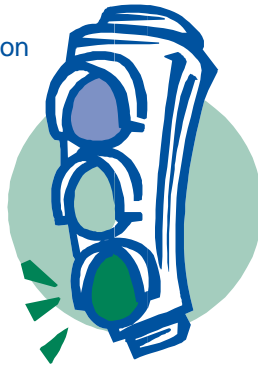


Energy 2 Learn

Energy 2 Learn (E2L) is a comprehensive K-12 energy education program designed specifically for S.C. students and teachers. E2L includes correlated lesson plans from "**Action**," science fair projects, recognition programs for schools, students and teachers as well as other materials and resources including special classroom presentations for sixth-grade students. Many of the materials offered include South Carolina-specific energy information that provides students a unique, life-long understanding of the state's energy usage and needs.

The Green Driver Project

The **Green Driver Project** targets students in high school driver education classes and provides an overview of the environmental impact of driving – lessons that will last a lifetime. Students learn about the importance of used oil recycling, related air, water and energy issues regarding the proper maintenance of their vehicles, litter prevention and safety through a new video, "DHEC1: Behind the Oil Change." The **Green Rider Project** is a similar program targeting younger students.



Love A Tree South Carolina

Love A Tree South Carolina is an activity-based program designed to help students learn about the important role trees play in our environment and economy. This free program includes materials on forest stewardship, recycling and other related topics and is provided in partnership with International Paper.



The Resource Center

The Office's **Resource Center** houses a variety of educational materials. Key publications offered are "The State of Recycling in South Carolina" annual report, "South Carolina Recycles: A Directory of Recycling Programs," "South Carolina Recycles" newsletter and DHEC's "GreenScene E-Magazine." The Office also offers a toll-free recycling hot line, **1-800-768-7348**. Call to schedule a presentation about solid waste issues or technical assistance including finding a recycling contact, what is recycled and recycling locations in your community.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Office offers technical assistance and is a statewide resource on a wide range of waste management issues to local governments, colleges and universities, schools and the public. The Office is providing assistance on several key waste management issues including **household hazardous materials, electronics (E-waste), product stewardship, construction and demolition debris, pay-as-you-throw, market information** and a **waste exchange**. A few of the Office's programs are listed below.

Asphalt Rubber Technology Service

The **Asphalt Rubber Technology Service** (ARTS) is a partnership of the Office, Clemson University and the City of Clemson. The mission of ARTS is to promote, design and test the use of recycled tires in rubberized asphalt and other crumb rubber applications including highways, secondary roads, exit ramp embankments, retaining walls and erosion-resistant beach walls. ARTS provides grant funding to local governments and others interested in this green technology. This one-of-a-kind research facility is funded by a grant from the Office.

Business Recycling Assistance Program

The **Business Recycling Assistance Program** (B-RAP) is a partnership of DHEC (the Office and the Center for Waste Minimization), the S.C. Department of Commerce (Recycling Market Development Advisory Council) and the University of South Carolina's Industrial Ecology Program. B-RAP's mission is to provide an overview of technical assistance programs offered by these non-regulatory

groups that are available to businesses, industry, government and others in four specific areas: waste reduction; recycling; buying recycled; and recycling markets and market development. B-RAP provides resource materials including fact sheets and "B-RAP News," a quarterly newsletter spotlighting recycling businesses, and the S.C. WasteXchange, <http://sc.wastexchange.org>.

Gardening & Recycling Organics Wisely

The Office encourages and provides technical assistance on composting from backyard to large-scale programs. The centerpiece of this technical assistance is the **Gardening and Recycling Organics Wisely** (GROW) program that provides a comprehensive approach to gardening, landscaping and waste reduction. GROW focuses on many issues including soil enrichment, native planting, naturescaping, smart watering, composting and minimizing the use of chemical treatments. The Office also provides technical assistance fact sheets on large-scale composting including getting into the business, regulatory concerns and proper techniques for better products.

S.C. Resource Conservation Challenge

The **S.C. Resource Conservation Challenge** is about new and improved ways for state agencies, colleges and universities, school and school districts to conserve natural resources, protect the environment and perhaps save money in the process. The Office is a partner of the Challenge. For more information, call **1-800-768-7348**.

PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

America Recycles Day

America Recycles Day (ARD) is celebrated every November 15th to remind everyone that recycling is working and the important role each of us plays in keeping it working. A statewide steering committee of public and private partners, including the Office, promotes ARD in South Carolina with educational programs, recycling fairs, contests, challenge cards and prizes.

Recycle Guys Public Service Announcements

"*R-E-C-Y-C-L-E... it begins with you and me...*" Sound familiar? It's the opening line of the Office's national award-winning Recycle Guys public service announcements (PSAs). The Guys began their recycling career as the Office logo in 1992, and made their television debut in 1997, getting the word out about recycling and have grown to include PSAs on air, water

and energy. Winner of national Telly Awards as well as local ADDY and MERCURY awards, the campaign has been adopted by states across the nation including Arizona, Florida, Kentucky, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and the City of Denver.

Used Oil Recycling

South Carolina has one of the nation's top and most comprehensive used oil recycling programs targeted at do-it-yourself oil changers. There are more than 600 used oil recycling sites statewide including many that accept used oil filters and bottles. The Office provides grant funding and technical assistance to local governments to set up and maintain used oil collection centers across the state. The Office also has developed a statewide awareness and education programs that include NASCAR Driver Jeff Gordon, the Recycle Guys and the Green Driver and Rider Projects.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Office has formed environmental education partnerships to promote waste reduction, recycling and buying recycled. The partners include those listed below and the S.C. Energy Office, the National Soft Drink Association, the National Kidney Foundation of South Carolina and Cowpens National Battlefield (National Park Service). For more information about these partnerships, visit www.scdhec.gov/recycle.

International Paper

International Paper helps promote America Recycles Day in South Carolina by sponsoring the Recycling Teacher of the Year and Recycling School of the Year essay contests. International Paper, in partnership with the Office, offers Love A Tree South Carolina, an activity-based education program that focuses on the importance of trees to our economy and environment. The company also sponsors Earth Camp, an environmental retreat for rising fifth- and sixth-graders from across South Carolina.

PalmettoPride

The Office partners with **PalmettoPride** on several projects. The centerpiece program is the Green Driver Project (see Education Programs). Other projects include efforts to eliminate open dumping and recycling/litter prevention at sporting events and other venues.



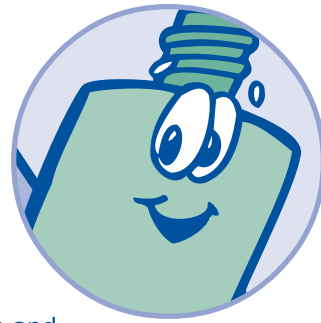
Recycling Market Development Advisory Council

The Office works on a variety of projects with the **Recycling Market Development Advisory Council** (RMDAC). The council assists in the development of markets in South Carolina for recovered materials and recycled content products with the primary objectives of improving solid waste management, resource conservation and economic development. RMDAC, as part of the S.C. Department of Commerce, reports annually on recycling markets, ways to improve markets and barriers to recycling. RMDAC and the Office also co-manage the Business Recycling Assistance Program (see Technical Assistance).



S.C. Partnership on Plastics Recycling

The Office is a member of the **S.C. Partnership on Plastics Recycling**. The partnership was formed to develop education and awareness efforts, improve markets for recovered materials and help build the infrastructure necessary to efficiently collect and process a wide variety of plastics. Members include the American Plastics Council, the National Association for PET Container Resources (NAPCOR), Wellman, Inc., RMDAC, the S.C. Energy Office, the U.S. Postal Service (Greater S.C. Cluster) and others.



S.C. Soft Drink Association

The **S.C. Soft Drink Association** supports environmental education efforts through several programs including America Recycles Day. In addition, the association has funded several unique projects including a set of recycling trading cards and bookmarks for students, and tote bags made from recycled plastic soft drink bottles for teachers.

U.S. Postal Service, Greater S.C. Cluster

The **U.S. Postal Service** (USPS), Greater S.C. Cluster, works with the Office on various projects including America Recycles Day (ARD), the Energy 2 Learn Summer Workshop and the ARD Recycling Adventure. The USPS first made the Office's "Action for a cleaner tomorrow" environmental curriculum supplement available on CD-ROM.

WasteWise

The Office serves as a partner and endorser of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's **WasteWise** program. WasteWise is a free, voluntary program that has its partners set waste prevention, recycling and buying recycled goals. Established in 1994, WasteWise has more than 1,300 partners. The Office recruits other organizations to become WasteWise members. Any organization or business in the state can join the WasteWise program, including schools and manufacturers as well as commercial and retail businesses.



GRANTS

Recycling Education Mini-grants are offered to S.C. K-12 schools for projects that promote waste reduction, recycling or composting. The mini-grants are offered in the amount of \$500 per school. Application deadlines vary according to funding availability, so please check our Web site, www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/grants.html, for more information.

Collegiate Recycling Grants are offered to colleges, universities and technical colleges to promote waste reduction, recycling or composting. Funding can be used to expand existing programs or to begin new ones. For deadlines, budgets or more information check out our Web site, www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/grants.html.

Local Government Grants are offered to cities and counties for recycling and waste reduction programs. Specific programs offered include:

- **Solid Waste Grants:** Targeted grants for local governments in need of assistance to reach their waste reduction and recycling goals.
- **Used Oil Grants:** Grants used to promote the collection of used motor oil, oil filters, oil bottles and oil/gas mixtures from do-it-yourself oil changers.
- **Waste Tire Grants and Automobile Dismantler Grants:** Grants used to assist in the removal and recycling of waste tires collected from the general public, from retailers, from salvage yards and from illegally dumped stockpiles.

RECYCLE GUYS AWARDS

Each year the Office honors the top recycling programs, projects and people in South Carolina for outstanding and innovative achievements in a variety of categories. The annual awards program is held each winter. Visit www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/rgawards.html or call 1-800-768-7348 for information about how you can nominate an outstanding recycling program, project or individual.



Office of Solid Waste
Reduction & Recycling
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www.scdhec.gov/recycle



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